AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 15, and continuing to page 10, line 20, as follows:

The socket distributed parts 112 provide distributed socket interfaces on all IP-utilizing processors 30 in main processor cluster (MPC) 32. In this regard, the socket distributed parts 112 provide TCP/UDP and raw IP sockets with standard primitives. Software applications using the socket services behave in relation to socket distributed parts 112 in the same way as to a normal socket. The invention is equally applicable whether Berkley standard socket or any other standard socket is employed.